

55/46/

MILITARY

STAT

80 3962581

PAGE 001
TOR: 061146Z MAR 80

NC 3962581

00 RUEAIIA

DE RUEFHOM #0970 0661130

ZNR UUUXX

O P 061115Z MAR 80

FM USICA/RONE

TO RUEHFO/USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO RUEKJCS/DOD WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEAIIA/WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEHVO/VOA MUNICH PRIORITY

RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPARTMENT WASHDC

RUSNAAA/USCINCEUR/ECAP

RUFRRSHH/USDOCOSOUTH

RUFHNAB/USMISSION USNATC

RUFHOML/AMCONSUL MILAN

RUFHOM/AMCONSUL FLORENCE

RUFHOM/AMCONSUL PALERMO

RUFLSKA/AMCONSUL NAPLES

RUDORRA/USNMR SHAPE

RUFBJA/COMMANDER USASCTAF/VICENZA/COMMANDING GENERAL

RUFTOOA/40TH TACGP AVIANO

RUKRAAA/7275ABG SAN VITO DEI NORMANNI AS IT

RUFLSHA/2187 COMM GP/CG AVIANO

RUFLSKA/COMFAIRMED

RUFLSKA/COMSUBGRU 8

RUFLEWA/NAF SIGONELLA

RUFLEWA/8TH SPT GROUP LIVORNO

RUFLEWA/NSO LA MADDALENA

RUFLEWA/COMSUBREFITRAGRL

RULYQJG/COMSIXTHFLT

RUFLEWA/CTF SIX SEVEN

RULYMDA/CTF SIX ZERO

RUFJCX/USOEDC PARIS

RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE //AEAPA-PA//

RIFT0/DET 4:40 TACG, DECIMOMANNU AB, IT/CC.

BT

UNCLAS

CURRENT REACTION ATTENTION USICA, EU, VOA, PGM/RC, PGM/F/FN/FW,

PGM/PG; STATE/EUR/WE, STATE/IN, STATE/P.

USOEDC PARIS ATTN: HOFFMAN

DAILY PRESS MESSAGE -- PART II

C. AFGHANISTAN

RADIO AND SEVERAL PAPERS REPORT ACCOUNTS OF SOVIET ATTACKS AGAINST THE AFGHAN GUERRILLAS. SEVERAL ARTICLES QUOTE REFUGEES AND OBSERVERS IN PAKISTAN REPORTING THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS USED GAS.

CORRIERE DELLA SERA HEADLINE: "USSR ACCUSED OF HAVING MASSACRED AFGHANS. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PAKISTAN DENOUNCES THE USE OF TOXIC GAS (WHICH TASS DENIES), AND THE KILLING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN."

IL POPOLO: "WERE CIVILIANS EXTERMINATED WITH GAS BY RUSSIAN SOLDIERS?"

CORRADO AUGIAS IN LA REPUBBLICA: "THE AFGHAN WAR IS AN EXCEPTION IN A WORLD OF SHOW BIZ... IN A WORLD DOMINATED BY THE SPEED OF COMMUNICATION, AFGHANISTAN TAKES US BACK TO A TIME MUCH BEFORE WW II, ESPECIALLY BEFORE THE VIETNAM WAR. FOR MONTHS AND YEARS, EVERY GUNSHOT, EVERY REPRISAL, EVERY MASSACRE,

UNCLASSIFIED

MILITARY

80 3962581

PAGE 002
TOR: 061146Z MAW 80

NC 3962581

THE BURNING OF VILLAGES, HELICOPTER ATTACKS (IN VIETNAM) WERE COVERED BY PRESS, PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TV. THERE WERE MOST DRAMATIC SCENES, WHICH SHOWED THE US IN THE WORSE LIGHT... TODAY NOTHING ARRIVES FROM KABUL EXCEPT TASS COMMUNIQUE, I.E. TOTAL SILENCE. WHY THE DIFFERENCE? THE TRUTH IS THAT THE AMERICAN SYSTEM PROVIDES NOT ONLY THE RIGHT TO DISSENT, BUT ALSO THE RIGHT TO BLAME THE LEADERS. THE SYSTEM ITSELF, THE INSTITUTIONS, ARE NOT QUESTIONED BECAUSE THEY ARE SUPPORTED BY A GENERAL CONSENSUS... THE LACK OF NEWS FROM KABUL TELLS US THAT THE KREMLIN IS AFRAID. THERE IS NO SOCIAL CONSENSUS IN THE USSR, AND THEREFORE A POSSIBLE WAVE OF DEEPLY UPSET PUBLIC OPINION COULD OVERCOME NOT ONLY BREZHNEV BUT THE ENTIRE SYSTEM. IVAN, THE RED ARMY SOLDIER, CANNOT BE SHOWN TO THE WORLD KILLING GUERRILLAS, BECAUSE HE MUST MAINTAIN THE HEROIC SPLENDOR OF A STATUE. AS BRECHT SAID, "WOE TO THE COUNTRIES WHO STILL NEED HEROES."

D. SCHMIDT IN THE US
COVERAGE VERY MODERATE.
PAESE SERA: SCHMIDT WILL TELL CARTER THAT WASHINGTON HAS NO CONSISTENT LINE."
LA REPUBBLICA: "SCHMIDT DEFENDS OSTPOLITIK."
AVANTI!!! "SCHMIDT TRIES TO CLARIFY MISUNDERSTANDINGS."
PAOLO GARIMBERTI IN LA STAMPA: "THE VISIT IS MAINLY AN ATTEMPT TO FIND A COMMON AMERICAN-EUROPEAN POSITION FOR A SOLUTION TO THE AFGHAN CRISIS, AND TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST."

E. US VOTE AGAINST ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS
SOME PAPERS CONTINUE TO DISCUSS THE VOTE, IN BRIEF INSIDE-PAGE ARTICLES.
IGOR MAN IN LA STAMPA: "DESPITE CARTER'S ELECTORAL CORRECTION, THE AMERICAN VOTE REMAINS A HISTORIC TURNING POINT, FOR THE FIRST TIME THE US HAS FORMALIZED ITS OPPOSITION TO ISRAELI POLICY."
ENDIT, CALLAWAY

END OF MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED